in spite of the fact that the consultant has not submitted so far any further report on the work of Second Mine Expansion Project of NLC;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the payment made so far to the same consultant; and

(c) what are the terms of payments?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting have been submitting reports periodically and the following payments have been made to them:—

Advance payment—DMs 253659

Payment on prorata completion of activities—DMs 640949

(c) The terms of payment which have been approved by the FRG Financing Agency KFW are as follows:

(i) *Advance payment*

10 per cent of the total contract value against Bank Guarantee for equivalent amount to be furnished by the consultant.

(ii) *Payments for services*

Against invoices on quarterly basis for actual manmonths in Germany and in India for the work completed in the previous quarters.

(iii) *Retention money bank guarantee by the consultant*

10 per cent of the contract value before commencement of payment for services.

(iv) *Bank Guarantee for faithful performance of the contract by the consultant*

10 per cent of the contract value.

Second mine expansion project of NLC

3135. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited had invited one of the contending parties to its spreaders project for second mine expansion programme in or around August, 1987 to approve the question of award of contracts to MAN and WMN;

(b) whether the same party issued a press note in the form of letter to the editor in the Times of India of 13th August, 1987 (Delhi Edition captioned 'Mannesmann Demag'; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) This letter to the editor makes no mention of any meeting or discussion between Neyveli Lignite Corporation and any of the contending parties for Spreaders' Contract.

Contract to M/s. WMI Cranes Limited

3136. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the companies and corporation under the administrative jurisdiction of his Ministry are still employing M/s. WMI Cranes Limited, Bombay for some contractual jobs despite the fact that this company had never performed well anywhere;

(b) if so, what are the details of contracts awarded to this company either singly or jointly and which are still awaiting completion; and

(c) what action is contemplated in the matter so as to impose ban on the award of further contracts?